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IARC Multicenter Case-Control Study of ETS and Lung Cancer:

An Analysis

PM3001495487

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/qjyj0001

Study characteristics

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- 12 centers; 7 European countries
- 650 cases; 1542 controls
- Enrollment between 1988 and 1994
- Common questionnaire (excepting translation differences)
  - **Estimates of ETS exposure**
  - **Occupational exposures**
  - **Urban/rural living**
  - **Education* and diet***
- Inter-center and intra-country differences
  - **Response rate**
  - **Selection of controls**
  - **Diagnostic criteria**

*Data on education and diet not available for all centers.

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Results

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Reported source of ETS exposure:	OR (95% CI)	Inter-center range	Intra-country (G1/G2/G3) (I1/I2/I3)
Childhood	**0.78*** (0.64-0.96)	0.45 - 2.09	**(0.60/0.82/0.55) (0.62/2.09/0.60)**
Spousal	**1.16 (ns)** (0.93-1.44)	(<0.7 - >1.5)	--
Workplace	**1.17 (ns)** (0.94-1.51)	(8 centers >1.0)	--
Workplace or spousal	**1.14 (ns)** (0.88-1.47)	0.72 - 2.29	**(0.88/1.22/2.01) (0.73/1.12/1.39)**
Overall vehicles	**1.14 (ns)** (0.88-1.48)	0 - 2.85	--
Overall public places	**1.03 (ns)** (0.82-1.29)	0.24 - 2.32	--

*** = Statistically significant. ns = not statistically significant**
G1/G2/G3 and I1/I2/I3 = ORs for German centers 1, 2, and 3 and Italian centers 1, 2 and 3

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Estimated effects of some sources of bias

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Source of Potential Bias	Reported Spousal	Reported Workplace	Reported Spousal or Workplace
Unadjusted OR	**1.16**	**1.17**	**1.14**
Misclassification bias	-0.03	-0.03	-0.03
Histological confirmation	-0.03	-0.03	-0.03
Unconditional analysis	-0.01	-0.07	-0.03
Confounding	-0.01	-	-0.01
Estimated overall adjusted OR	**1.08**	**1.04**	**1.04**
Reduction in excess risk	***50%***	***76%***	***71%***

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SUMMARY

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- Large, well-conducted study

- No statistically significant overall increased risk reported for any sources of reported ETS exposure
- IARC collected data on many sources of bias, but did not report an OR adjusted for all these factors
- Data presented within the paper indicate that if all the adjustments had been made, the reported excess risk would have been reduced by at least 50%

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